

AUDIT FINDINGS

NARRATIVE:

The PREA audit of the JCC-St. Anthony in St. Anthony, Idaho, one of three juvenile correctional centers operated by the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC), occurred on March 25-27, 2014. The audit began with an entrance meeting that included IDJC PREA Coordinator Joe Blume; JCC-St. Anthony Superintendent Skip Green; JCC-St. Anthony Unit Manager Jared Stokes; JCC-St. Anthony Training Coordinator James Phillips; JCC-Lewiston PREA Compliance Manager and Unit Manager Terry Lewis; and Anne M. Nelsen, PREA Auditor. The entrance meeting included an introduction and overview of the schedule for the three-day audit period. Following the entrance meeting a comprehensive tour of the facility was provided. The JCC-St. Anthony is a large campus with numerous buildings so the tour took a fair amount of time. After completing the tour, auditor interviews began and continued throughout the subsequent three days.

Those specific individuals interviewed included Clinical Supervisor, Murray Doggett; Superintendent, Skip Green; Unit Manager/Intermediate Level Staff Member, Jared Stokes; Nurse Manager, Keri Jex; Facility PREA Compliance Manager, Beverly Wilder; Contract Staff Member/Faith-Based Resource Developer, Lori Szmak; SANE Nurse, Roxy Bradley; Human Resources Secretary, Lisa Faucett; Security Supervisor/First Responder/Investigator, Mark Chapman; Clinician/Risk Screener, Leif Erickson; Teacher/Line Staff Member, Arthur Deen; Special Education Teacher/Line Staff Member, Toni Garz; Instructor/Line Staff Member, Brett Mackert; Contract Psychiatrist, Kelly Palmer; and, Sharon Harrigfeld, Agency Director.

In addition, a number of line staff members were interviewed during the audit. Those interviewees were selected randomly from schedules of staff members on shift on the days of the audit. Included in those interviews were Katie Withers Garner, Jonathon McCoy, Lindsey Deal, Anthony Wilson, DaeNell Douglas, Briana Reese. Because the education staff at the JCC-St. Anthony are employed by the agency and are considered line staff members, three of those employees were also interviewed including Arthur Deen, Toni Garz and Brett Mackert.

Finally, interviews were conducted of residents who represented specific PREA categories as well as from all living units or groups at the facility. Residents interviewed included one youth who reported sexual victimization during risk screening at admission, RP; three youth who identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or intersex, IB, JP and FH; and, one youth with limited English proficiency or literacy skills, FH. At least one youth from each of the 13 groups at the facility was interviewed, including WO, JP, KM, RL, AM, MM-E, AM, RP, JP, AG, CO, EH, AJ, and SD.

All but one of the interviews were conducted while on-site with two interviews with contract staff and outside agency personnel being conducted by phone. The Agency Director was out of state during the audit but she was interviewed the following week.

An Exit Meeting was held the final day of the audit with the same individuals present as well as the facility PREA Compliance Manager, Beverly Wilder. During that meeting I complimented those present for volunteering to be the first of the three IDJC facilities to be audited. I also remarked on the organization of the PREA Coordinator, the PREA Compliance Manager, the facility Training Coordinator and others in ensuring that the audit went smoothly and that no time was wasted. I noted the apparent high quality and commitment of the agency and facility staff and the fact that a number of residents voluntarily stressed the effectiveness of the treatment program in helping them with their needs and issues. I emphasized that I could not offer specific information about what my report would state and that I would be compiling that report over the coming 30 days, reviewing the Pre-Audit Questionnaire, the supporting documents, my observations from my tour and information derived from interviews.

DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY CHARACTERISTICS:

The JCC-St. Anthony is a 148 bed juvenile correctional facility on a very large campus outside a small rural community in Eastern Idaho. The facility is over 100 years old and has some historic buildings and structures as well as more modern buildings and buildings that have been remodeled to serve the changing population in accordance with best juvenile justice practice. The campus is well cared for and the grounds provide a pleasant environment for the 25 buildings that

comprise the facility. There are six cottages that include 12 living units or groups and an Observation and Assessment unit. There is an education building, a medical building, administration buildings, including training facilities, and many other buildings that have unique purposes.

The JCC-St. Anthony is considered a maximum-security facility but security is primarily, and generally successfully, provided through staff supervision and through the Positive Peer Culture (PPC) treatment program. There is no secure perimeter fence or other typical security features.

The facility has an average daily population of 128 residents last year, the average length of stay was 17.9 months, there are 164 staff members, and there are six contract providers who work regularly with youth, including the physician, physician assistant, psychiatrist, occupational therapist, religion coordinator and barber. The facility employs its own educational staff and nursing staff. The facility has numerous employees who have worked at JCC-St. Anthony for many years, which appears to enhance consistency in programming.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS:

This auditor completed a site visit of the JCC-St. Anthony on March 25-27, 2014. Based on review of the Pre-Audit Questionnaire and accompanying documents, documents reviewed and interviews conducted during and shortly after the site visit, and my subsequent review of documents, along with conversations and email communication with key agency and facility staff the following results are determined in the Initial Report:

Standards met (no corrective action needed): 140 (65% of applicable and non-exempt standards)

Standards not met (requiring corrective action): 73 (34%)

Not exempt from standard: 1 (< .5%)

Not applicable standards: 10

Final Report:

The agency developed Corrective Action Plans (CAP) for each of the standards that had been found out of compliance in the Initial Report, working collaboratively with this auditor in doing so. The agency was able to provide information on three of those 73 non-compliant standards that verified that they did, in fact, meet those standards, which revised the initial numbers to 143 (67%) applicable standards met and 70 (33%) standards not met. The agency completed corrective action plans for each of those 70 standards and was subsequently found to meet all of them. JCC-St. Anthony now meets 100% of applicable and non-exempt PREA Juvenile Facilities standards. The agency and facility worked diligently and professionally to address this auditor's concerns and to develop and achieve Corrective Action Plans.

This auditor found the agency and the facility employees to be extremely dedicated to providing quality services to the youth in their custody. They exhibited high levels of commitment on every level. In particular, the organization and planning by the PREA Coordinator, the JCC-St. Anthony Superintendent, the JCC-St. Anthony PREA Compliance Manager and the JCC-St. Anthony Training Coordinator helped to ensure that the audit experience and corrective action process were successful. The CAP assistance of the Department Director, the IDJC legal department, the IDJC Human Resources staff and others further enhanced the experience and helped to achieve the a successful PREA audit.

AUDITOR CERTIFICATION:

The auditor certifies that the contents of the report are accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and no conflict of interest exists with respect to his or her ability to conduct an audit of the agency under review.

Anne M. Nelsen, MSW, MPA

September 17, 2014

Auditor Signature

Date